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Applicant: Klemets et al.

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DECLARATION

I, Hans Hällström, hereby declare that:

1) I am a co-inventor of the subject application.

2) I hold the degree of M.Sc. Chem. Eng.(polymers), that I am employed by Akzo Nobel/Eka Chemicals AB in Sweden since 1/1 1969 as a research scientist, and that I at present hold the position of Senior Specialist, Product and Process development for the Paper Chemicals Division of Eka Chemicals AB.

3) The following experiments were performed under my direction and control:

Conductivity levels of aqueous cellulosic suspensions have been measured for 20 European, North American and Japanese paper machines commercially producing different grades of paper from different furnishes in papermaking processes comprising white water recirculation.

For reasons of confidentiality, the names and countries of the respective paper mills are not specifically mentioned in the table.

| Paper Mill No. | Type of Paper Produced         | Type of Furnish / Cellulosic Fibres                          | Conductivity [ $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ ] |
|----------------|--------------------------------|--|--|
| 1              | Uncoated fine paper            | Bleached de-inked (recycled) and bleached wood-free fibres   | 650                                      |
| 2              | Liner                          | Recycled fibres  | 5000                                     |
| 3              | Coated fine paper              | Bleached wood-containing and bleached wood-free fibres       | 3000                                     |
| 4              | Wood-containing printing paper | Bleached wood-containing fibres                              | 1300                                     |
| 5              | Wood-containing printing paper | Bleached wood-containing fibres                              | 900                                      |
| 6              | Board                          | Unbleached wood-containing and unbleached recycled fibres    | 1400                                     |
| 7              | Coated fine paper              | Bleached recycled and bleached wood-free fibres              | 500                                      |
| 8              | Wood-containing printing paper | Bleached wood-containing fibres                              | 900                                      |
| 9              | Wood-containing printing paper | Bleached wood-containing fibres                              | 1800                                     |
| 10             | Board                          | Bleached recycled and bleached wood-free fibres              | 1300                                     |
| 11             | Wood-containing printing paper | Bleached wood-containing fibres                              | 720                                      |
| 12             | Coated fine paper              | Bleached wood-containing and bleached wood-free fibres       | 1000                                     |
| 13             | Wood-containing printing paper | Bleached wood-containing and bleached wood-free fibres       | 1100                                     |
| 14             | Liner                          | Unbleached recycled and unbleached wood-free fibres          | 2000                                     |
| 15             | Coated fine paper              | Bleached de-inked and bleached wood-free fibres              | 700                                      |
| 16             | Wood-containing printing paper | Unbleached de-inked (recycled) and bleached wood-free fibres | 3900                                     |
| 17             | Uncoated fine paper            | Unbleached de-inked (recycled) and bleached wood-free fibres | 1200                                     |
| 18             | Board                          | Recycled fibres  | 1500                                     |
| 19             | Liner                          | Recycled fibres  | 1000                                     |
| 20             | Coated fine paper              | Bleached recycled and bleached wood-free fibres              | 600                                      |

It can be seen that the paper mills, which were commercially producing paper from cellulosic suspensions, were producing paper from aqueous papermaking suspensions having conductivity levels within the range of from 500 to 5000  $\mu$  S/cm. The majority or 80% of the paper mills were commercially producing paper from cellulosic suspensions having conductivity levels within the range of from 500 to 1800.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that wilful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment or both under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such wilful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_